



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

type gives information essential to all visitors. The smaller type is devoted to a detailed description of the inscriptions, reliefs, etc., to which many travellers can give little or no time. The pages describing the fine temple of Dendera, for example, are thus equally useful to those who must return to the steamer after an hour at the Temple, and to those who can make a more thorough examination. The maps and plans, as usual, are of superior excellence and all have been carefully revised by Prof. Steindorff, the well-known Egyptologist.

Dictionary of the World's Commercial Products. By J. A. Slater.

With French, German and Spanish Equivalents for the Names of the Commercial Products. Second Edition. 163 pp. Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, London, 1907(?). (Price, 2/6.)

These definitions seldom refer to the distribution of the various products. They simply tell what the product is, how it is produced, and its chief uses. The information, on the whole, is very accurate, and the book should be useful as a work of reference in the study of commercial geography.

A History of William Paterson and the Darien Company. By James Samuel Barbour. x and 284 pp., 6 Appendices, and 8 Illustrations. William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London, 1907. (Price, 6s.)

William Paterson, the founder of the Bank of England, was a seventeenth-century forerunner of the twentieth-century promoter, using the word in its best sense. He was a man of great projects and large executive ability, and no stigma attaches to his name on account of the colossal failure of his scheme to found trading and agricultural enterprises on the Isthmus of Panama. He was able to organize companies with large financial backing and to inspire public confidence by associating men of reputation in his schemes. He organized the Darien Company, and possibly its multiplied disasters and tragic collapse might have been avoided if he had been permitted to lead the two expeditions that were sent to the Isthmus.

The book is the history of these ill-starred attempts to establish British colonists in the tropical Isthmus, where both nature and men were hostile. It is a chapter in early colonial enterprise that should be preserved. The whole pathetic record of suffering, caused in a large measure by fatuous mismanagement, is set forth in this volume from official sources.

Round About Jamestown. Historical Sketches of the Lower Virginia Peninsula. By J. E. Davis. Pp. 107, 27 Illustrations from Photographs and Index. Published by the Author, Hampton, Va., 1907. (Price, \$1 cloth, or 50c. paper.)

These interesting historical sketches appeared originally in a magazine, and are worthy of the more permanent form in which they are now presented. They deal chiefly with the early days and development of that part of Virginia lying between the James and York Rivers, and extending from Jamestown to Fortress Monroe, and Miss Davis has written in these pages many excellent descriptions of the life and the record of this part of the country from the cradling of the republic at Jamestown to the terribly tense days of the Civil War, in which the peninsula played so prominent a part. The reader is told, also, of much that he may see to-day that is reminiscent of the earlier times, and of historic events.

Thousands of negro contrabands flocked to the lower peninsula during the Civil War because it was occupied by the Federal troops. For a time the North provided

schools for them, and Gen. S. C. Armstrong, superintendent of contrabands, took special interest in these schools. He finally suggested that Hampton would be a fitting place for a permanent training school for colored teachers, and his idea resulted in the founding of Hampton Institute.

The Great Plains. The Romance of Western American Exploration, Warfare, and Settlement, 1527-1870. By Randall Parrish. 399 pp., 31 Illustrations, and Index. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1907. (Price, \$1.75.)

The author claims for the work that it is the first to condense the history of the plains within the limits of a single volume. The compression required has not impaired the readability of the book except in the 39 pages given to exploration. Little more than a bare list and meagre characterization of exploring parties can be attempted in that space. But it is different with the main contents of the book, which deal with incidents of the fur trade, the story of the Santa Fé trail, the prairie schooner, adventures and tragedies on the overland stage lines, the pony express, Indian campaigns, cattle kings, the first railroad, outlaws, and other topics in the history of the plains before they were tamed and brought to order. The author has tapped a rich mine in this story of pioneer times and has written a fascinating book.

The Japanese Nation in Evolution. Steps in the Progress of a Great People. By William Elliot Griffis. xii and 408 pp., 21 Illustrations and Index. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York, 1907. (Price, \$1.25.)

Dr. Griffis presents some new views on the Japanese. Most writers have emphasized the Mongolian and Malayan elements in the race, but he traces the descent of the people through Aryan ancestry and to this fact he attributes their modern success. He aims to show that the Yamato man intermarried with the Ainu and that to-day the white man's blood is in the Japanese "for the better working of his own brain, the improvement of his own potencies and the beautifying of his own physiography." He says the Aryan features in the Japanese mind and body "are plainly discernible, and in thousands of typical instances they are striking." He also asserts that the Japanese are growing taller, having lengthened in a generation over a half inch, as is proved by the measurements for the army of over a million men between 1871 and 1907. He gives examples of the evolution in Japan of Aryan ideas and manual arts; and finds that the evolution from the Aryan was modified by Malayan rather than by Mongolian influences. In fact, he believes the Japanese to be distinctly un-Mongolian. He sees nothing surprising in their recent achievements in peace and war, but regards their advancement as only another stage in their evolution.

It is the steps in the evolution of the Japanese nation that Dr. Griffis describes in this book. His chapters are full of incident, all bearing upon the various stages in history leading up to the nation of to-day. He regards the eventual entrance of Chinese or Mongolian civilization as a calamity, in so far as it "arrested the progress of the language, petrified literary forms and enchained the intellect to an alien past." He shows how the experiences of the past generation or two have revealed both the national excellencies and the limitations of the Japanese; and while he has great faith in the destiny of the nation, he believes that much of their seeming success to day is illusive and disappointing.